

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 10798 101531Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----073699 101536Z /44

O P 101505Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7932

USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T LONDON 10798

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINS, UK, IZ

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF FORMER IRAQI PREMIER

1. FORMER IRAQI PRIME MINISTER ABDUL RAZZAK AL-NAYIF
WAS SHOT BY AN ARAB GUNMAN OUTSIDE THE INTER CONTINENTAL
HOTEL JULY 9 IN LONDON, DYING ON THE MORNING OF JULY 10.
THE GUNMAN WAS SEIZED TRYING TO ESCAPE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE FCO THE GUNMAN WAS CARRYING WHAT
APPEARS TO BE A FALSE BAHREINI PASSPORT AND MAY HAVE
PALESTINIAN CONNECTIONS. THE FCO HAS ALSO INFORMED
US A MINOR IRAQI CIVIL SERVANT CARRYING AN IRAQI
PASSPORT WAS ARRESTED AT LONDON AIRPORT YESTERDAY
IN CONNECTION WITH THE CRIME AND THAT HMG BELIEVES
THAT IT HAS ENOUGH INFORMATION TO ESTABLISH A LINK
WITH THE IRAQI EMBASSY HERE.

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3. THE FCO ASKED US THAT WE HOLD THIS INFORMATION
CLOSELY FOR THE TIME BEING (PARA 2).

4. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT CAN OBVIOUSLY BE EXPECTED TO
HAVE A) SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR ANGLO-IRAQI RELATIONS
AND B) TO A LESSER DEGREE, SOME EFFECT ON OUR SECURITY
PLANNING FOR THE FORTHCOMING LONDON MIDDLE EAST TALKS.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME ARAB EMBASSIES HERE ARE ALREADY
ASKING FOR MORE POLICE PROTECTION.

BREWSTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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